

• COLORADO RIVER •
AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT



OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Vol. VI.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1939

No. 9



Cloud formation over the Colorado River just below Parker Dam.

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AQUEDUCT NEWS
 THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

306 WEST THIRD ST.
 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan Water District.

Vol. VI September 25, 1939 No. 9

Last Concrete On Main Aqueduct Placed Sept. 9

On Saturday morning, September 9, a small group of men began the placing of concrete in the transition structure which connects the West Portal of the San Jacinto Tunnel with the eastern end of the Casa Loma Siphon.

Under the watchful eyes of General Superintendent B. C. "Mike" Leadbetter, and Construction Superintendent "Ed" Noon, the construction crew went about its job in a calm, quiet manner. There was nothing in the attitude of the men to indicate that the job they were doing was any different from any other job that they had done during the past five or six years.

The transition structure rises into the air for a number of feet above the tunnel arch and above the siphon barrel which leads away from the structure. Because of this the wooden forms for the structure, and the reinforcing steel, completely hid the tunnel portal. On the other side of the structure there was little to indicate that the concrete being placed had anything to do with an aqueduct, because all but a few feet of the siphon had been covered over with backfill.

To the unsuspecting stranger who might have watched the scene, it would have looked as though a few men were placing some concrete in a big hole in the ground—and nothing more.

Actually, the date, and the location, and the occasion of this activity, are items that have already become vitally important in the history of Southern California.

That handful of men were among the last of a great construction army of more than 35,000 men who have helped to build the Colorado River Aqueduct.

(Continued on Page 5.)



Another "arty" scene caught by M.W.D. Photographer Will Fox of desert cloud formations in the vicinity of the Intake Pumping Plant.



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 Field. Supt. Pumping.....T. T. Walsh

SUPERINTENDENTS OF CONSTRUCTION

PUMPING PLANTS
 Intake and Gene....T. T. Walsh
 Iron Mt.....B. H. Martin
 Eagle Mt. and Hayfield.....G. E. Archibald

SUPERINTENDENTS
 (Main Aqueduct Tunnels)
 San Jacinto Tunnel, District Force Acct., B. C. Leadbetter, Gen. Supt.

Casa Loma Siphon
 Edwin Noon, Supt.

(Distribution Pipe Line)
 Schedules 24SC, 25SC, Emesco Derrick & Equipment Co., H. T. Kennecht, Gen. Mgr.
 Schedules 26SC, 27SC, 28SC, Western Pipe and Steel Co., C. P. Sanders, Gen. Supt.; S. S. Walker, Field Supt.
 Palos Verdes Reservoir, W. E. Hall Co.; W. E. Hall, Gen. Mgr.



The last construction work on the main aqueduct. Crews make the final pour of concrete in the transition structure at West Portal of San Jacinto Tunnel. At lower left are Construction Supt. Ed. Noon, and Shifters, Ben Markin, Vic Trine, J. P. Faubion, J. P. Weber, and Al Stoker.

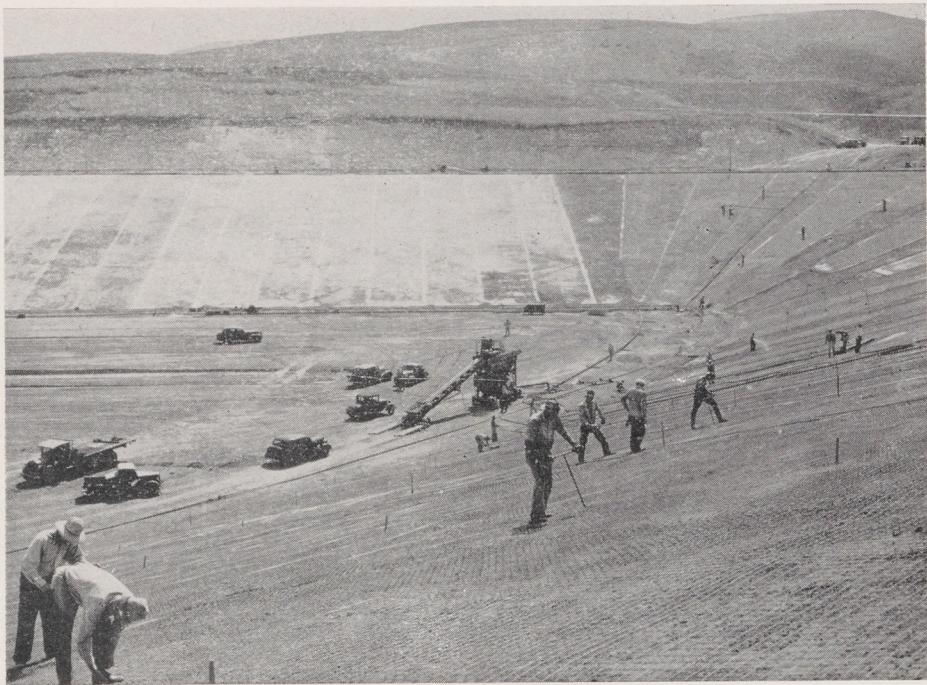
Completion of Main Aqueduct To Be Commemorated

For the purpose of officially commemorating the completion of the main line of the Colorado River Aqueduct, a brief ceremony is being planned to take place at the transition structure at the West Portal of the San Jacinto Tunnel on Saturday, October 14, 1939.

Due to the limitations of space in the vicinity of the transition structure it will be impossible for any large number of people to witness the ceremony. Arrangements are being made, however, for a radio broadcast of the event which is planned to take place at noon on October 14. It is believed that this broadcast will be released over the facilities of the Columbia Broadcasting System. Station KNX is the Southern California outlet for the CBS chain.

In addition to the radio, the ceremony will be covered by the press and by motion picture newsreel companies.

As a means of providing a permanent identification marker for the spot where the last construction work was completed on the main aqueduct, a large bronze plaque is being installed in the transition structure, and will be unveiled as a part of the commemoration ceremony. In raised letters on this plaque is the following:



A general view of crews placing reinforcing wire prior to guniting Palos Verdes Reservoir on Distribution System.

"The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California — Colorado River Aqueduct — Transition Structure Connecting West Portal, San Jacinto Tunnel and Casa Loma Siphon — Last Structure on Main Aqueduct to be Completed — October 14, 1939 — Length, Main Aque-

duct, 242 miles; Initial Distribution System, 150 miles — Ultimate Capacity, one billion gallons per day — Here Colorado River Water enters the Coastal Plain of Southern California to serve cities and areas within The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California."

Under the above, will be a list of the names of the officers of the District and members of the Board of Directors.

In addition to brief statements by Director V. H. Rossetti, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee of the Board of Directors, Chairman of the Board, W. P. Whitsett, and General Manager Weymouth, the ceremony will include the sealing and placing of a copper box, containing historical records, in the transition structure.

Among the items of interest which will be included in this box, to be preserved for future historians to examine, will be the names of the 35,000 people who have been directly employed in the construction of the aqueduct system. This list will consist of the official monthly report sheets of the District's personnel and labor employment offices, giving the name, city, and classification of every man and woman employed on the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

In addition to the names of employees, the following records will also be sealed in the transition structure:

(Continued on page 5)



Crew engaged in final clean-up inside the 13-mile San Jacinto Tunnel. Latest progress reports indicate that this work is now practically completed.

Last Concrete On Main Aqueduct Placed Sept. 9

(Continued from Page 2.)

The job they were doing was of far greater significance than just placing concrete in a transition structure—actually they were completing the last major construction work on the 242-mile main line of the aqueduct.

There is, of course, remaining construction work to be done on the aqueduct distributing system, and because of this it will probably be a number of months or even a year before the aqueduct begins regular delivery of water to the District cities.

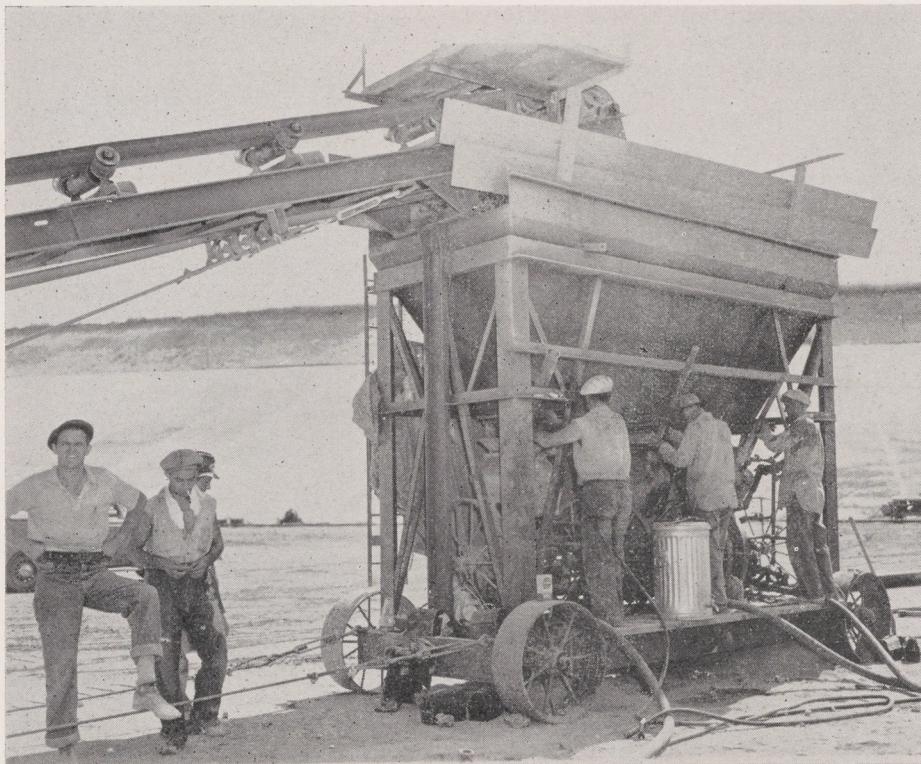
The principal purpose of the aqueduct, however, is to bring water from the Colorado River to the Coastal Plain of Southern California. The completion of the transition structure finished the last link in the main aqueduct, and it now is possible for Colorado River water to flow onto the Coastal Plain.

There were two other interesting historical foot-notes in connection with the placing of the last concrete. The first was the fact that the transition structure is at the exact spot where Colorado River water will enter the



A nozzle crew spraying gunite lining in the Palos Verdes Reservoir.

Coastal Plain. The second, was the fact that the job was completed on a day which ushered in one of the hottest and driest periods that has been experienced in Southern California during the past quarter of a century.



Hopper and battery of three gunite charging guns used in placing lining of Palos Verdes Reservoir.

Completion of Main Aqueduct To Be Commemorated

(Continued from page 4)

A record of the officers and members of the Board of Directors and all former members of the Board, and a record of the administrative and engineering staff and special consultants.

Bound copies of The Metropolitan Water District Act, as amended, the History and First Annual Report of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, The Summary of Preliminary Surveys and Final Report of the Engineering Board of Review, the Fourth Edition of the District's report on the Colorado River Aqueduct (commonly referred to as the prospectus).

Selected issues of The Colorado River Aqueduct News recording significant developments and progress steps in the planning and construction of the aqueduct, including a copy of this, the September 25, 1939, issue of the News.

The ceremony will be witnessed by members of the District's Board, staff, and representatives of the District cities. For those who may plan to listen to the radio description of the ceremony, it is suggested that the date, October 14, 1939, be noted, and that the newspaper radio logs on that date be checked for the exact hour of the program.

MONTHLY REPORT REVIEWS ACTIVITIES ALONG THE AQUEDUCT LINE

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a brief summary of some of the activities of the District as set forth in the monthly report of General Manager F. E. Weymouth, filed with the Board of Directors in September, covering work done in August.)

Miscellaneous Activities Division

Sixty-five labor employment applicants were cleared for work on the aqueduct. Of this number, nine applicants were made available for force account work and 56 were made available for aqueduct contractors. A total of 598 persons were interviewed during the period.

During the month of August the District continued to receive requests from motion picture theaters for showings of the District's film, "The Thirteen Golden Cities." Up to August 31, the film had been exhibited in 76 independent theaters and had been booked for showings in 123 independent theaters. At the request of the management of Fox West Coast Theaters, Inc., prints of the film had been made available to the 92 pictures houses of that corporation.

Main Aqueduct

Construction—San Jacinto Tunnel—The principal remaining work in the tunnel consists of repair of concrete surface imperfections between Potrero and West Portal, removal of the timber bridge west of Lawrence, and invert clean-up. Work was started August 28 on removing the bridge and track and final clean-up. Removal of surface equipment and utilities at both Lawrence and Potrero is in progress.

Casa Loma Siphon—Concrete has been placed in the entire 697 feet of siphon barrel, and forms and reinforcement steel were being set for the transition at the end of the month. The daily working force on both San Jacinto tunnel and Casa Loma siphon averaged 322 men in August.

Maintenance—The U. S. Bureau of Reclamation forces continued the operation of Parker Dam and the reservoir, maintaining the water level in Lake Havasu just above elevation 440. Daily discharge through the gates averaged 10,530 cubic feet per second. Routine patrols and maintenance were carried on by M.W.D. forces along the line of the aqueduct.

Salvage Division—Based on appraised valuations, the amount placed on salvage division books during August, amounted to \$47,258.03, making a total

to date of \$1,640,070.83. Total salvage disbursements to date amount to \$738,471.46.

Civil Engineering Division

Specifications—Specifications No. 312 for construction of the water-softening and filtration plant were completed and the work advertised on August 25. Bids are to be opened on October 27, 1939.

Design—The 329 contract drawings for the water-softening and filtration plant were completed and work started on a quantity survey and final cost estimate. Drawings were prepared for improvement of the grounds and for water lines to irrigate the District's property around the Palos Verdes reservoir.

Materials—Deliveries of materials during the month included 7,300 barrels of cement and 151 tons of wire mesh reinforcement. At Banning laboratory acceptance tests were completed on 6,600 barrels of cement.

Distribution Division

Work was in progress during the month by field and office forces on the Santa Monica and Glendale-Burbank feeders. The contract drawings for the last-named line were practically complete at the end of the month. Data were assembled relative to the proposed service of water to March Field, and on the initial construction necessary for Orange County deliveries. All work on Schedule 24SC (98th Street to 190th Street) of the Palos Verdes feeder was completed August 26. On Schedule 25SC (190th Street to Palos Verdes reservoir) the total footage of pipe laid at the end of the month was 26,620, with 8,740 feet yet to be placed. Excavation within the Palos Verdes reservoir was completed August 24.

Electrical Engineering Division

All of the pumping plants with the exception of Hayfield were regularly operated throughout the month.

Purchasing Division

Purchase orders totaled 622, and purchases amounted to approximately \$40,000. Carload forwardings totaled 33, of which 14 were cement.

Accounting and Costkeeping

The total cost of the work accomplished to August 31, 1939, was \$180,610,851.

October Ends 16th Year of Aqueduct Work

The ceremony to be held on October 14, commemorating the completion of the main aqueduct, will bring to a close the sixteenth year of work in connection with the planning and building of the aqueduct.

Some of the most important events that have taken place, in connection with the Colorado River Aqueduct, during these past sixteen years, are listed below:

October, 1923—Headed by the late William Mullholland, then Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles Water Department, the first surveys were started to find a route for an aqueduct from the Colorado River.

December, 1928—The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California was officially organized for the purpose of financing, building, and operating an aqueduct from the Colorado River to its member units.

September, 1931—The citizens of the cities of the Metropolitan Water District, by a majority of 5 to 1, voted a \$220,000,000 bond issue to finance the construction of the Colorado River Aqueduct.

September, 1932—The Reconstruction Finance Corporation purchased the first block of the District's bonds.

December, 1932—First actual construction work was started on the aqueduct, the first construction crews going into the field on Christmas Eve of that year.

May, 1933—Construction of the 13-mile San Jacinto Tunnel was begun.

September, 1934—First concrete lining work was started in aqueduct tunnels.

November, 1934—First open work construction was started for the main aqueduct canals, conduits, and siphons.

January, 1935—Work started on the Monrovia and Pasadena tunnels, the first work on the aqueduct distribution system.

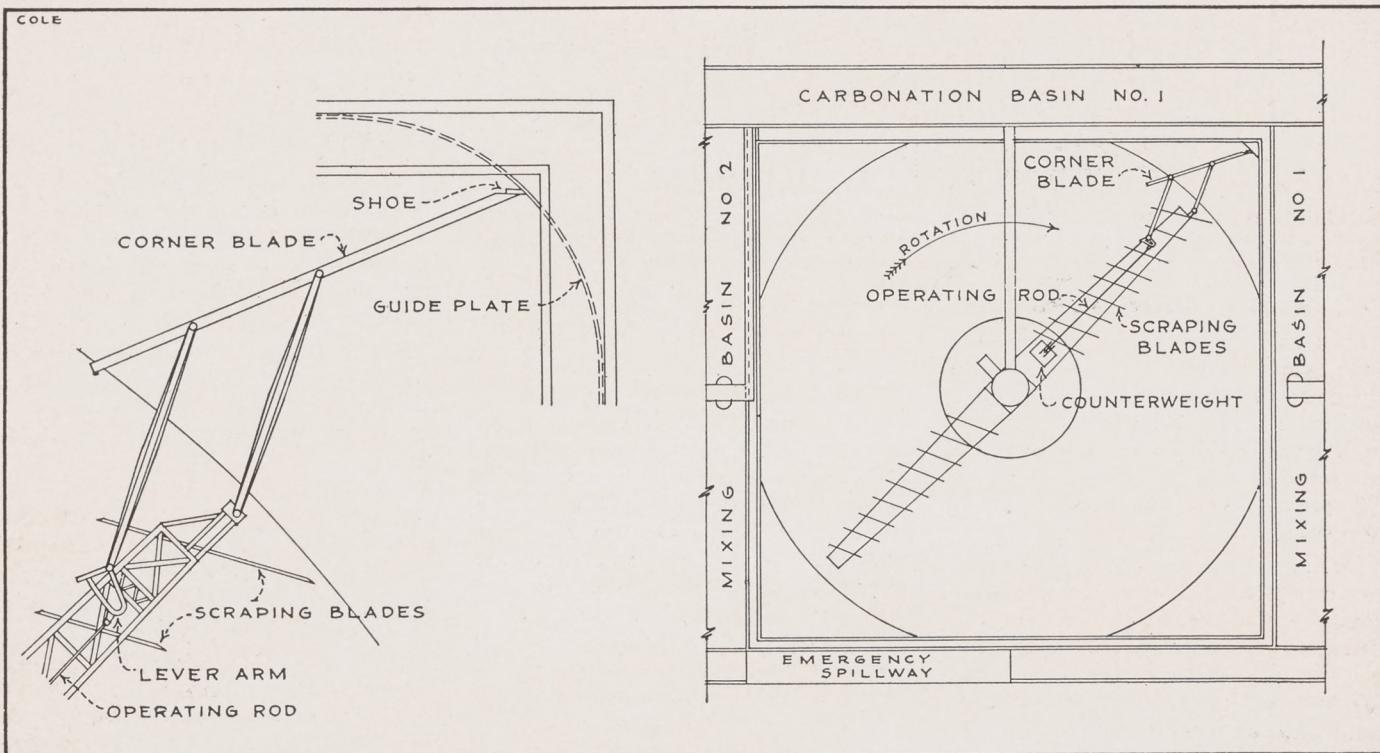
January, 1936—The 18-mile East Coachella Tunnel, longest on the aqueduct, holed through.

July, 1938—Parker Dam completed and placed in operation.

November, 1938—San Jacinto Tunnel holed through.

January, 1939—Intake Pumping Plant placed in operation.

September, 1939—Completion of construction of main aqueduct.



SUMMARY OF AQUEDUCT CONSTRUCTION

September 10, 1939

FEATURE	Length in Miles	Date Contract Awarded	Date Work Completed
MAIN AQUEDUCT			
TUNNELS	92.1		
San Jacinto	13.04	Feb. 10, 1933	99% Completed
All other tunnels	79.06	Dec. 21, 1932, to June 16, 1933	July 23, 1937
SURFACE CONDUITS	147.0		
Lined canal	62.8	Oct. 19, 1934	July 28, 1937
Unlined channel	1.1	Dec. 7, 1934	Oct. 24, 1936
Covered conduit	54.4	Oct. 19, 1934, to Dec. 7, 1934	May 30, 1938
Siphons	28.7	Oct. 19, 1934, to Sept. 4, 1936	Sept. 10, 1939
PUMPING PLANTS	1.2		
Intake		Nov. 22, 1935	99% Completed
Gene		Nov. 22, 1935	99% Completed
Iron		Jan. 24, 1936	99% Completed
Eagle		Mar. 27, 1936	98% Completed
Hayfield		Sept. 4, 1936	94% Completed
RESERVOIRS AND APPURTENANT WORKS	1.3		
Gene		Mar. 26, 1937	Aug. 15, 1938
Copper		Mar. 26, 1937	Aug. 15, 1938
Hayfield			No construction required.
TOTAL MAIN AQUEDUCT	241.6		
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM			
TUNNELS	16.2	Dec. 21, 1934, to Aug. 9, 1935	Oct. 10, 1938
PIPE LINES	122.3		
Scheds. 24SC & 25SC	13.5	Oct. 14, 1938	83% Completed
Scheds. 26SC, 27SC, & 28SC	7.2	Dec. 30, 1938	95% Completed
Other pipe lines	63.6	Nov. 1, 1935, to Sept. 10, 1937	Mar. 26, 1939
Contemplated pipe lines	38.0		Contracts not awarded.
RESERVOIRS	3.9		
Cajalco		Aug. 16, 1935	Feb. 9, 1938
Palos Verdes		Dec. 30, 1938	76% Completed
WATER SOFTENING AND FILTRATION PLANT			Contract not awarded.
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	142.4		

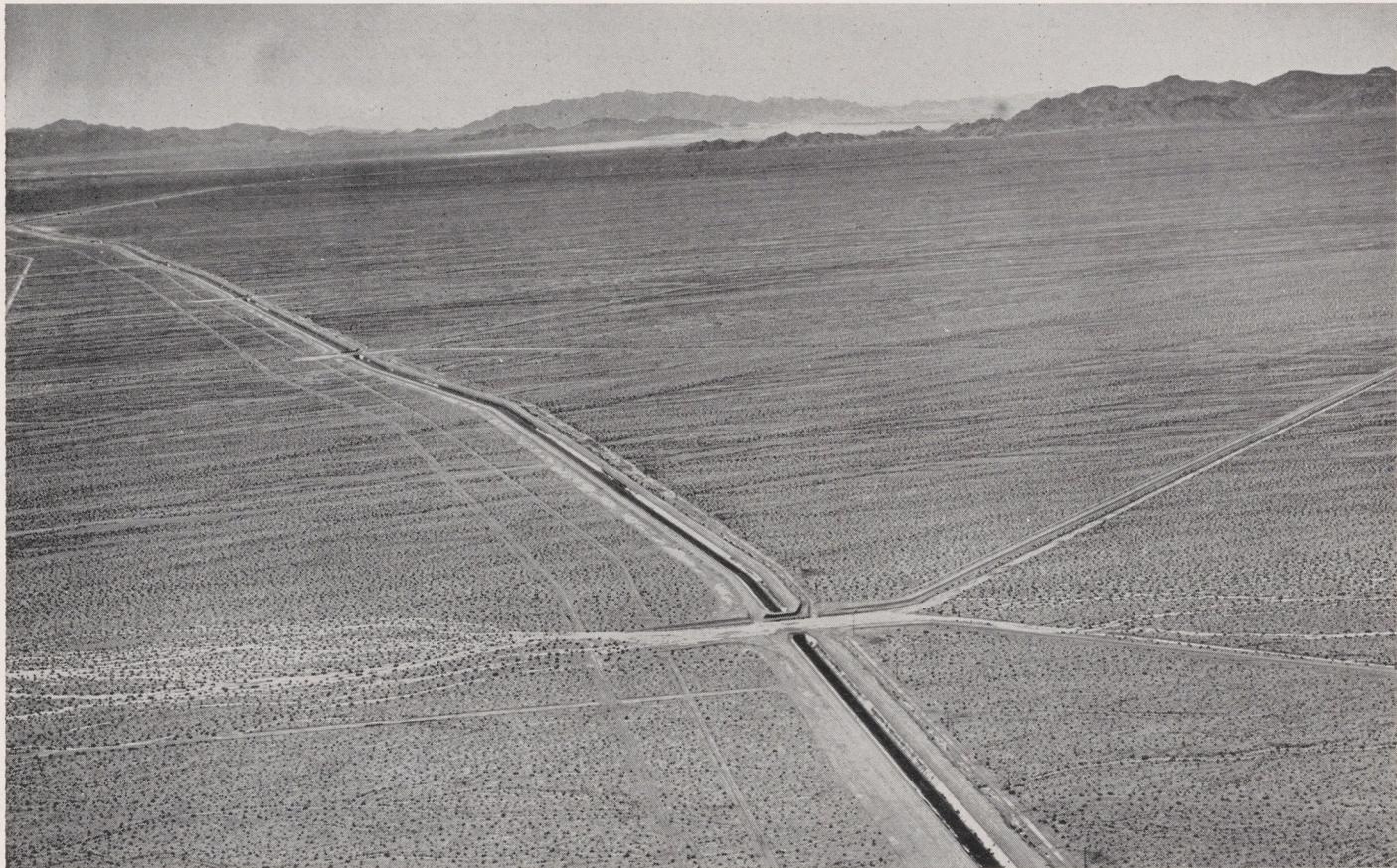
HERE'S ONE FOR RIPLEY CALLED SQUARING A CIRCLE

Included in the plans and specifications for the District's water softening and filtration plant, bids for the construction of which are to be opened on October 27, is an item which certainly rates a note in anybody's "Believe It or Not" book.

It is a rotating device which will scrape the bottom of a square tank. Devices to scrape the bottoms of circular tanks are common, but a device moving in a circular manner, and at the same time going around the perimeter of a square—is something else again.

In order to get the greatest utilization of space in the new plant, the design calls for the settling basins to be square, rather than circular. The purpose of these settling basins is to precipitate calcium carbonate (limestone) from the water. This precipitated material must then be removed from the bottom of the basin. This is accomplished by scraping it to the center of the tank where it is pumped out.

As shown in the drawing at the top of the page, the basin is scraped by a long arm which travels around the inside of the tank. On the end of the arm is an extension which goes on into the corners of the square which cannot be reached by the main arm. A detail of this extension is shown at the left in the drawing. The extension is pushed into the corners by a counterweight mechanism, and is guided by a steel shoe which slides along a guide plate around the perimeter of the basin. The basin is 200 feet square, and is 14½ feet deep on the outside and 20 feet deep in the center. The basins are to be of reinforced concrete construction.



Above are two aerial photos of aqueduct features which were taken recently by Spence Air Photos. Top is the canal crossing the desert in the vicinity of Grommet. Below is a view of the Hayfield Pumping Plant and Reservoir.

Weather Provides Main Topic For Conversation

Because it normally has one of the most perfect climates in the world, the fact is often overlooked by visitors and natives alike that Southern California is in actuality a desert region and that its climate is apt to misbehave on occasions in a very spectacular manner. It is for this reason, of course, that it has been necessary to build the Colorado River Aqueduct.

During the month of September, the climate in this region went on a spree that didn't bring joy to various Chambers of Commerce in the area. At the time this issue of the News went to press, the metropolitan area was suffering under one of the hottest periods that had been experienced in the area during the past 25 years.

In the early part of September, the desert to the east of the coastal plain, and in the vicinity of the aqueduct line, was visited by heavy rain storms which were just as "unusual" in the desert as the desert weather was in the metropolitan area.

Beginning Sunday evening, September 3, a heavy and general rain storm swept over the area traversed by the aqueduct between the Colorado River and Indio. The storm continued until the night of September 6.

The District weather gauging station at Division 1 reported a total rainfall of 4.99 inches during the period midnight, September 3 to 7:00 a. m., September 7. Iron Mountain reported a total of 5.59 inches of rainfall during the same period, and Hayfield reported 5.94 inches for the period. Banning reported a total of 0.59 inches of rain, all of which fell on September 5 and 6. The rainfall during this storm far exceeded that of any storm that had occurred since aqueduct surveys were started in 1923.

For the benefit of those who don't mind the temperature, but complain about the humidity—Division 1 reported a real humidity reading. At that camp, at 7:00 a. m., September 6, the temperature was 78 degrees and the humidity was 86 per cent (no, there's no mistake in that 86.)

As compared with the rainfall and humidity recorded at various points along the aqueduct line during the storm, the District's records indicated that over a five-year period the average rainfall per year at Division 1 is 6



Members of the Banning Office Force, all of whom have been on the job since 1933 or before. Top row, left to right: E. E. Stewart, Don DeWitt, W. F. Dickinson, John Bone, P. C. Vilander, Merle Schilling, Paul Wyeth. Second Row: W. F. Peterson, Ralph Stringfellow, B. C. Leadbetter, Frank Seright, Al Preston, Albert Hoffman. Bottom row: De Wolfe Murdock, A. E. McKenzie, W. E. Smith.

inches, at Iron Mountain it is 2.66 inches, and at Hayfield it is 3.9 inches. The normal humidity in this section of the desert ranges from 5 to 10 per cent.

The main line of the Santa Fe Railway was washed out in the vicinity of Needles, and the Santa Fe Parker branch line was washed out in the vicinity of Vidal.

District crews patrolled all open sections of the aqueduct during the storm, but access roads in mountainous areas were impassable during the storm. A final check-up revealed that the aqueduct itself had come through the test without any damage. The 230-kv transmission line was undamaged and furnished power to the Iron Mountain and Eagle Mountain pumping plants which continued to operate during the storm.

The State and County highways along the line of the aqueduct were badly damaged and many sections of these roads were impassable during the height of the storm. The Iron Mountain and Eagle Mountain pumping plants were isolated on a number of occasions by heavy runoffs occurring between the plants and the main highway.

Division 1 reported heavy runoffs into Lake Havasu from the Colorado and Bill Williams rivers. Between 12:00 midnight and 2:00 a. m., September 7, it was estimated that the Bill Williams River reached a peak discharge of 146,000 second feet into Lake Havasu. This had dropped to 100,000 second feet by noon on that day. During the period September 1 to 7:00 a. m. September 7, the water surface of Lake Havasu rose from Elevation 441.6 to 448.0, or within 2 feet of the maximum allowable water level behind Parker Dam.

This rapid rise in the water of the lake was made despite the fact that more water was being released from Parker Dam than was being released into the Colorado from Boulder Dam. During the storm period, Boulder Dam was releasing 9,079 cubic feet per second, and Parker Dam was releasing 17,000 c.f.s. During the morning of September 7, the outflow at Parker Dam was increased to 50,000 c.f.s.

The flood control services performed by Parker Dam during the storm greatly reduced the flood hazard in the Palo Verde and Imperial valleys.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



Construction Superintendent Ed. Noon and General Superintendent B. C. "Mike" Leadbetter watch crews place the last concrete in the construction of the main aqueduct. Transition structure at West Portal San Jacinto Tunnel, September 9, 1939.

In its rotogravure section for Sunday, September 17, the Los Angeles Times devoted practically the entire section to an interesting and accurate description of the Colorado River Aqueduct, and to the history of the long fight for water on the Coastal Plain of Southern California. On the cover of the section, and in natural color, were three excellent photographs of Parker Dam, the Colorado River, and the Eagle Mountain Pumping Plant. These pictures were taken by Lynn Rogers, a staff member of the newspaper. The entire two-page center spread of the rotogravure section was devoted to an interesting map of the Colorado River Aqueduct and Distribution System, and to typical desert scenes along the line of the aqueduct. The map was prepared by the Times' well-known staff artist, Charles Owens, and the descriptive material was prepared by Chester Hanson.

* * *

A matter of interest to old-timers is a note received by the News telling of the marriage in Los Angeles on August 7 of Margaret Aleda Schiller and Alex Jonsson. Alex was a former engineer and construction foreman on Division 4 during the hey-day of the Coachellas.

* * *

A trio of three old-timers of the of-

Aqueduct Temperatures

August 15 to September 15, 1939

	Max.	Min.
Div. 1	113°	63°
Div. 2	112°	63°
Div. 3	113°	64°
Div. 5	106°	46°

fice force of the Design and Distribution Divisions have left the District and gone to work for the Engineering Department of the City of Los Angeles. This trio consists of Ernest "Dutch" Mueller, R. A. "Ross" Purchase and H. H. "Hully" Hultgren.

* * *

General Manager Weymouth, Assistant to the General Manager Kinsey, and Controller Luney of the M.W.D. have been appointed as Chairman, Colonel, and Lt. Colonel, respectively, for the M.W.D. division of the Public Employes' Department for the forthcoming sixteenth annual appeal of the Los Angeles Community Chest.

* * *

Following are transfers of District employees which have been omitted in recent issues of the News:

Pumping Plant Operator G. W. Jones from the Iron Mountain Pumping Plant to the Hayfield Pumping Plant.

B. O. Hicks from Banning to the Eagle Mountain and Hayfield plants as a pumping plant operator.

Pumping Plant Operator J. C. Shatz from the Iron Mountain plant to the Intake and Gene plants.

Price V. Jones from the East Portal of San Jacinto, where he was an underground electrician, to the Iron Mountain plant as a pumping plant operator.

Also from East Portal San Jacinto Tunnel was Ernest Gautsche, who is now a pumping plant operator at the Eagle Mountain plant.

Franklin E. Ham, formerly maintenance electrician in the Operating Division, has been transferred to the Intake and Gene plants as a pumping plant operator.

* * *

The Engineering News-Record for August 24, 1939, reports that Lewis Tuthill is now employed in the testing and control laboratories of the United States Bureau of Reclamation at Denver, Colorado. "Tut" was Testing Engineer for the District from 1931 to 1938, and was headmaster at the famous "Banning Tech", the concrete

school which was attended by all District concrete inspectors.

* * *

Speaking of maps, the District has recently prepared and printed a beautiful four-color map showing the entire area traversed by the aqueduct, and accurately indicating the route of the aqueduct and distributing system, and important features of the aqueduct system. Copies of this map, which is 9-in. by 20-in., may be obtained without charge by contacting the District at its Los Angeles headquarters.

* * *



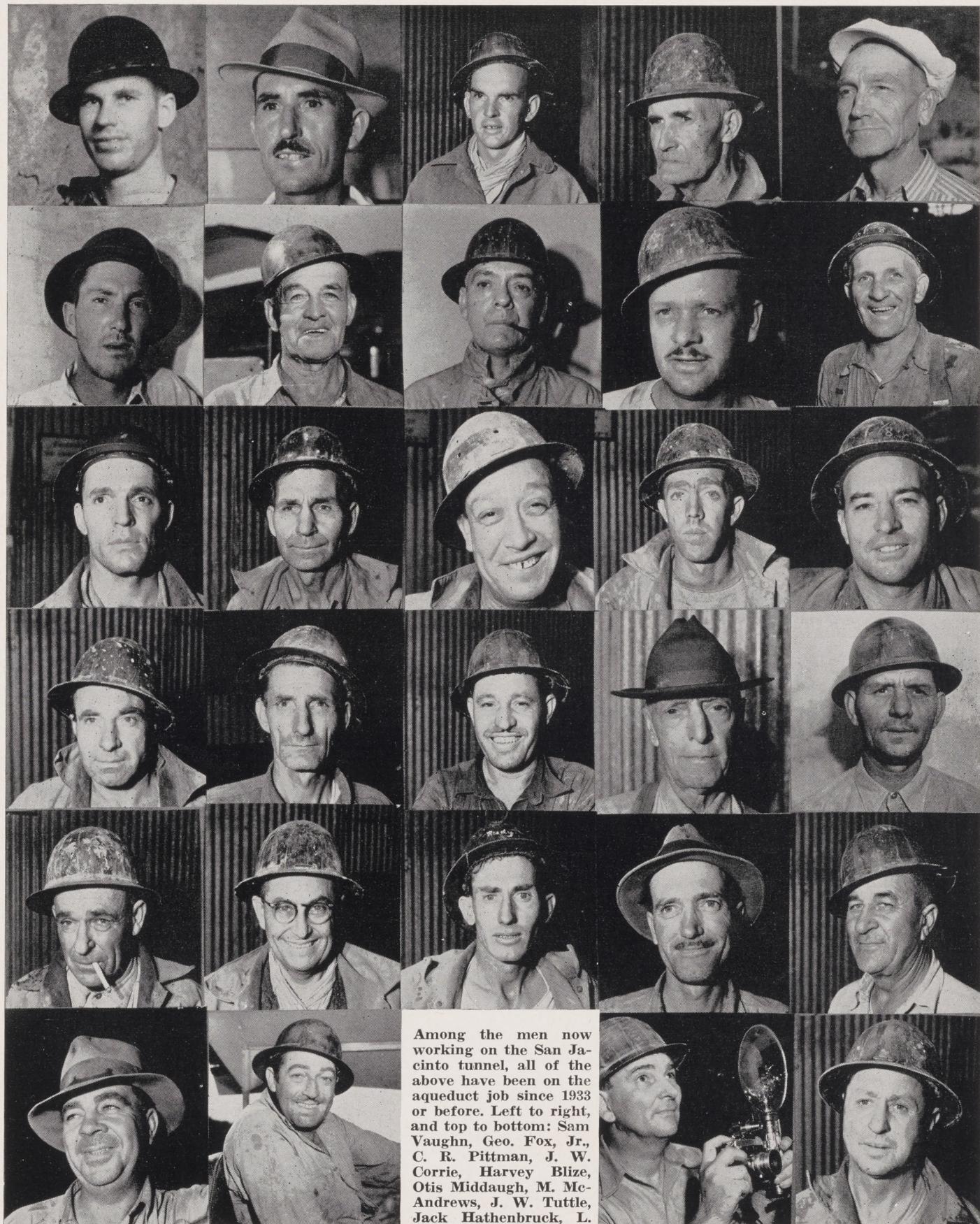
George E. Baker

George E. Baker, who is well known among aqueducts, both on the main aqueduct and on the distribution system, resigned from the District on September 1 to accept a position as City Engineer and Public Service Director of the City of Long Beach. Mr. Baker has been a resident of Long Beach since 1923, and during the period 1923-1929 he was Division Engineer in charge of surveys and street improvements for that city.

Mr. Baker was born in North Boston, New York, on August 8, 1881, and graduated from the University of North Dakota in 1905. During the period 1905 to 1923 he was a mining engineer for the Keystone Copper Company in Arizona, Chief Engineer for Woods Brothers in Lincoln, Nebraska.

He started to work on the Colorado River Aqueduct project, on topographic and location surveys, in 1929. During the heavy construction period he was resident engineer on construction work at Division 1 and Division 4 on the main aqueduct, and since 1934 he has been employed as a resident engineer on distribution division construction work.

George's smile and good nature will be truly missed by his many friends on the aqueduct who join in wishing him the best of luck in his new position.



Among the men now working on the San Jacinto tunnel, all of the above have been on the aqueduct job since 1933 or before. Left to right, and top to bottom: Sam Vaughn, Geo. Fox, Jr., C. R. Pittman, J. W. Corrie, Harvey Blize, Otis Middaugh, M. McAndrews, J. W. Tuttle, Jack Hathenbruck, L. T. Markham, Frank

Bort, J. T. Snideman, J. T. Velvarde, J. W. Peeler, Clark Gray, R. H. Ritz, W. P. McLane, R. S. Silva, R. D. Taylor, C. F. Reynolds, W. C. Canady, Earl Bond, Rudolph Kruggel, John Schrink, Frederick Smith, O. S. Hatcher, Ralph McFaul, Will Fox, Joe Martinez.

Passage of Ham and Eggs Act Means Ruin for M.W.D. Employees

Stressing the fact that the vote of every single voter in the State of California who is opposed to the Ham and Eggs proposition will be required in order to defeat the measure on November 7, the Board of Control of the M.W.D. Employees Association is urging all of its present and past members to make certain that they are registered.

Re-registration is necessary if you did not vote at either the primary or general election in 1938, or if you have moved into a new precinct. September 28 is the deadline on registration.

The Employees Board of Control is also urging its members to take an aggressive part in the campaign to defeat the Ham and Eggs proposition on November 7. If this measure is adopted it will mean loss of income for *every* man and woman who is employed by the Metropolitan Water District, and will have the same effect on employees of contractors who are doing work either for the District, or for any other agency of the State of California, including the State government, all counties and cities, and all districts such as school districts, flood control districts, sanitary districts, etc.

This loss of income will be brought about by the fact that the Metropolitan Water District, and all other governmental agencies of California, will have nothing but pension warrants with which to pay salaries. Pension warrants would also have to be used by the M.W.D. to pay its contractors, and to pay for all materials and services purchased by the District.

If the Ham and Eggs proposition is adopted on November 7, all taxes paid to the Metropolitan Water District will be paid in pension warrants, and all revenue from the sale of water will be paid in pension warrants. These two items are the only sources of revenue available to the District. District employees *must* take warrants, therefore, because the M.W.D. will have no real money, that is, legal tender of the United States, with which to pay salaries. Employees must not be fooled by the tricky wording of the act which states that governmental employees *may* take warrants for their salaries.

In spite of the extravagant claims of the Ham and Eggs promoters, the Employees Board of Control sincerely be-



Another view of guniting operations in the Palos Verdes Reservoir showing nozzle crew and charging hopper in background.

lieves that the pension warrants will be absolutely valueless. Most responsible private agencies in the State such as banks, clearing house associations, and reputable merchants have already flatly stated that they cannot and will not accept such pension warrants.

The reason for this is very simple. The State of California is not a self-supporting unit which can continue its existence entirely independent of the rest of the United States or of the rest of the world. The largest part of the necessities of life required by the people of the State are imported from other parts of the United States.

Even though an unthinking merchant may state that he will accept pension warrants in exchange for bread, for example, he will be unable to do so more than once. The wheat required to make the bread to re-stock the merchant's shelves is not grown in California and must be purchased out of the State. It is sheer folly to believe that wheat producers in other parts of the United States will accept useless pieces of paper, in place of the real money of the United States, in exchange for their product.

The example can be multiplied by a thousand because it applies to nearly every single item that the average Californian uses in maintaining a normal standard of living.

In the event of the passage of the Ham and Eggs act, as already pointed out, the District and other govern-

mental agencies will be compelled by law to accept the funny money. With these exceptions, however, no other person or agency can be forced to accept pension warrants. District employees can in no way compel their landlord, or grocer, or filling station operator, to accept pension warrants. And yet, pension warrants will be the only thing that District employees will have to spend if the Ham and Eggs proposition is passed on November 7.

Disregarding the very personal way in which passage of the act would threaten employees, the Employees Board of Control also point out that passage of the Ham and Eggs act would introduce a form of dictatorship which is in absolute opposition to the principles of government upon which this nation and this state have been founded, by placing the administrators of the act above the courts and above the law.

One provision of the proposed act states:

"No injunction or writ of mandate or other legal or equitable process shall ever issue to interfere with the administration of this article or to prevent any provision of this article from going into effect."

Not only have the promoters of the proposition had the effrontery to attempt to completely abolish the basic principles of democratic government, but they brazenly provide that one of their own members must be appointed as Administrator of the act.